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Action

Control:

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Rec'd:

October 11, 1962

9:57 a.m.

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FROM: Paris

Info

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 1748, October 11, 10 a.m.

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Reference: TOPOL 457, Department circular 626.

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Embassy officer discussed circular 626 with Spitalier, officer in charge Caribbean Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, who took careful notes and promised consult with his superiors. [Stated as his opinion that it most unlikely France would permit overflights by Soviet aircraft French territory if these aircraft en route to Cuba. Recalled that French had stalled Czech requests for overflights even though Czechoslovakia party to Chicago convention.]

[As concerns US measures against ships and shipping concerns transporting goods to Cuba, Spitalier said in confidence French had written to their merchant marine pointing out measures which US proposing to take against ships engaged in bloc-Cuban trade and consequences which could result to ships or shipping concerns engaging in bloc-Cuba trade. Said French do not expect much reaction since the French merchant marine has not for all practical purposes taken part in movement of goods from bloc to Cuba.]

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